

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1 to 14 (Canceled).

15 (Currently Amended). A prosthesis system comprising

~~cooperating first and second attachment elements,~~

~~a prosthesis that carries one of the attachment elements, and~~

a fastener ~~body~~ sized and configured for deployment in tissue, ~~and the fastener~~ including a distal body region that carries the other one of the configured for penetrating tissue in response to an implantation force and a proximal body region including a carrier that limits penetration of the proximal body region into tissue, the carrier including an attachment element[s] that, when the distal body region is in a tissue penetrating condition, is exposed outside tissue to mark a targeted prosthesis placement site in advance of deployment of a prosthesis,

a fastener attachment assembly sized and configured to be deployed to a tissue site, the fastener attachment assembly including an actuator that couples to the carrier for imparting the implantation force to the fastener to place the distal body region in the tissue penetrating condition exposing the attachment element of the carrier outside tissue to mark the targeted prosthesis placement site,

a prosthesis including an attachment element configured, in response to manipulation of the prosthesis relative to the attachment element of the carrier, to mechanically engage the attachment element of the carrier, and

a prosthesis delivery catheter sized and configured to deploy the prosthesis at the targeted prosthesis placement site marked by the attachment element of the carrier and to manipulate the prosthesis body to mechanically engage the attachment element of the prosthesis with the attachment element of the carrier to thereby couple the prosthesis to the fastener body at the targeted prosthesis placement site.

16 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 15

wherein the ~~cooperating~~ attachment element[s] of the carrier and the attachment element of prosthesis comprise a cooperating mechanical coupling assembly.

17 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 16

wherein the mechanical coupling assembly includes a hook.

18 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 16

wherein the cooperating mechanical coupling assembly includes a barb.

19 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 15

wherein the cooperating attachment elements includes a magnetic coupling assembly.

20 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 15

wherein the cooperating attachment elements includes a chemical coupling assembly.

21 – 22 (Cancelled).

23 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim ~~24~~ 15

wherein the distal body region ~~for penetrating tissue~~ comprises a helical coil.

24 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 15

wherein the fastener body comprises a stent ring having an outer surface that includes a region for penetrating tissue.

25 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 24

wherein the stent ring is expandable between a radially constrained condition and a radially expanded condition.

26 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 24

wherein the fastener body includes an interior surface that includes the one attachment element.

27 (Withdrawn). A system according to claim 24

wherein the region for penetrating tissue includes a tissue penetrating element.

28 (Currently Amended). A system according to claim 15

wherein the ~~fastener body~~ attachment element of the carrier includes a radio-opaque marker material.

29 to 32 (Canceled).